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UNITED STATES FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Washington 25, D.C.

FF1/AS-2

Serial 5717

RESTRICTED

9 AUGUST 1944

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
 To: Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Area.
 Subject: Technical Air Intelligence on the Japanese Air Force.
 Enclosures: (A) SecNav ltr. serial 1298916 dated 28 June 1944.
 (B) ComSoPac A8/(25) Serial 0443.
 (C) Ltr of Authority for TAI Field Officers - suggested.

1. Technical air intelligence on the Japanese Air Force (Army and Navy) is obtained from captured aircraft and equipment, markings and nameplates thereon, captured documents, prisoners of war, etc., and provides data on performance, vulnerability, fields of fire, recognition and tactics of the Japanese Air Force. This data affects operations, tactics, planning, target information, domestic design, and economic warfare.

2. At present, the basic information including captured air equipment is collected by various allied intelligence agencies, and forwarded to Southeast Asia Command New Delhi, Allied Air Forces Southwest Pacific Area, U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Navy Department, and in lesser amounts to other places for evaluation. Hence, no one central agency has all the available data for effective evaluation, and there is duplication of effort.

(and with approval of U.S. C-in-C of Staff)
 3. In view of the above, there has been established under the cognizance of the Chief of Naval Operations (Director of Naval Intelligence) a single agency equipped and staffed with personnel competent to make final evaluation and dissemination of technical air intelligence on the Japanese Air Force.

(Added)
 4. For the purpose of assisting (area) commanders in the collection and salvage of Japanese aircraft and their equipment, specially trained and qualified technical air intelligence personnel will be furnished for attachment to area commands to operate thereunder in connection with all technical air intelligence matters.

5. In order to facilitate generally uniform procedure, the Director of Naval Intelligence will provide necessary standardized training courses for technical air intelligence personnel, and such manuals and other publications on technical air intelligence as may be found necessary.

Red indicates changes in directive prepared by AAF (A-2)

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6. *Commanders of anti-Japanese theaters are*
(Addressee is directed to:

(a) Appoint from trained technical air intelligence personnel furnished their command, an area technical air intelligence officer to exercise control over TAI activities within the ^{theater} (area) and assist the ^{theater} (area) commander in the collecting, evaluating, and shipping of all Japanese airborne equipment (excluding bombs, mines, and torpedoes) and aircraft servicing supplies and equipment, nameplate data.

(b) Maintain liaison with other ^{theater} (area) commanders on technical air intelligence matters.

(c) *The addressees are directed to - and equipment*
7. (a) (c) Supply the necessary assistance to enable Technical Air Intelligence Units to locate, inspect, collect, salvage, and transport, by fastest practicable means, captured air equipment after such preliminary examination as the area commander may desire, to the Technical Air Intelligence Center, Anacostia, D.C., or other address designated by the Director of Naval Intelligence.

(b) (1) (d) Forward to the Technical Air Intelligence Center or other address designated by the Director of Naval Intelligence:

(1) 1) Nameplates and markings from Japanese aircraft and aircraft equipment, photographs, or other reproductions of markings and nameplates which cannot be rubbed or removed.

(2) 2) Captured documents or reproductions thereof containing technical information on the Japanese Air Force.

(3) 3) All technical information on Japanese Air Forces obtained from Prisoner of War interrogation.

(5) 4) All other technical intelligence related to the Japanese Air Force.

(e) Furnish TAI personnel with such individual authority as may be required (see copy of suggested letter of authority, enclosure (A)).

(c) (f) Take all necessary steps to safeguard all of the above equipment.

(8) 7. Such parts of all previous directives as are in conflict herewith are rescinded.

(9) 8. Enclosure (B) outlines an organization which successfully functioned in the South Pacific for collecting and safeguarding captured aircraft and aircraft equipment. It is furnished for guidance and should be followed wherever practicable.

(10) 9. (Arrangements have been made to have instructions similar to the above issued by the U.S. Army and the British in theaters where they have primary interests)

(10) *Instructions, similar to the above, have been issued by the U.S. Navy and arrangements made for the British to do likewise.*

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(11)
10. It is not intended that the above will in any way deprive the area and theater commanders operating against the Japanese of the opportunity of collecting and making such initial evaluation of captured air equipment and related information and dissemination of the results as may be necessary to meet their own immediate tactical requirements.

/s/ C. M. COOKE, Jr.
Acting Chief of Staff.

Copy to: (with encl.)
ComNavGroupCHINA
AC/S G-2
AC/AS Int. USAAF
ComSeventh Fleet

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